

Good morning,

It is with great pleasure and pride that I am able to work with such amazing students, staff, and administration in the Consolidated School district of New Britain every single day. There are times in life when biting your tongue and not commenting on difficult issues is appropriate. This is not one of those times. After 15 years in New Britain as both a teacher and administrator, I have come to realize that it is imperative that our kids are afforded the same opportunities and funding as our surrounding urban districts because their future depends on it. I have personally witnessed several student success stories in my career because of the support, structure, and nurturing environment provided by our teachers, board of education members, and all those involved in the day to day interactions with our kids... We are the ones in the trenches who see firsthand what it takes to prepare our students for an ever changing society. Can you imagine how many more success stories we would see if our students were on an even playing field? I am truly blessed that I have been given the opportunity to make critical change in shaping lives of our young adults... That being said, please understand that we feel that we are "put on an island" to survive on our own. This doesn't feel good. We will continue to fight because we do not know any other way. Thank you for listening.

Respectfully,

Joe Pinchera

**Joseph Pinchera**

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